

Interview with Arjun von Caemmerer

10<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Hobart Tasmania

Interviewer - Ben Ross [www.oralhistorycompany.com](http://www.oralhistorycompany.com)

Interview concerns Arjun's concrete poetry, collaborations with composer Michael Kieran Harvey, in particular the development and performance of The Green Brain Cycle at MOFO Festival Hobart Tasmania February 2018

0:00	Working with Michael. Previous projects. Beginnings of working with Michael on The Green Brain Cycle. The novel, The Green Brain.
1:37	Twenty pieces, each named after anthropod. Compositional approaches.
3:04	Quotation from Michael's PhD. Explanation of the use of morphology in composition. Use of the letters and spelling in the names of the insect as a starting point for the writing of the poetry.
4:35	Technical constraints of creating the music and poetry. Use of extracts of text from the novel. Narrative. Themes of the novel represented in the poems.
4:43	Form of the poems and relationship to meaning. Poem titles as meaning.
8:12	Audience reactions.
9:08	Previous collaborations with Michael. Concrete poetry and music as elements. 48 Fugues for Frank. Homage to Zappa. Brian Ritchie. MONA FOMA. Concrete poetry (Lingua Franka) projected during the performance.
11:03	Mutual interest in Frank Zappa. Zappa's Ruth is Sleeping.
12:00	Previous collaboration. Patanjali. Use of text from Arjun's book, Pieces of 8. Yoga sutras. Performance of yoga. Yoga as language.
14:18	Arjun's work, Tripples as basis for Michael's work Fear. Use of text to stimulate composition.
15:35	Rehearsing and developing The Green Brain Cycle. Vocal and written elements
19:47	Use of vocoder.
21:06	Recombinants. The collection of poems written for The Green Brain Cycle.
21:32	Poem: Rant (from Grasshopper)
22:23	Poem: Eaten (from Mantises)
23:17	Poem: Heritage (from Beetles)
24:33	Poem: Earrings (from Butterflies)
26:52	Poem: Tribe (from Moths)
27:10	Poem: Agree/Negate (from Lice)
27:22	Poem: Regret (from Earwigs)
28:00	Poem: Nite Rite (from Silverfish)
28:25	End